

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
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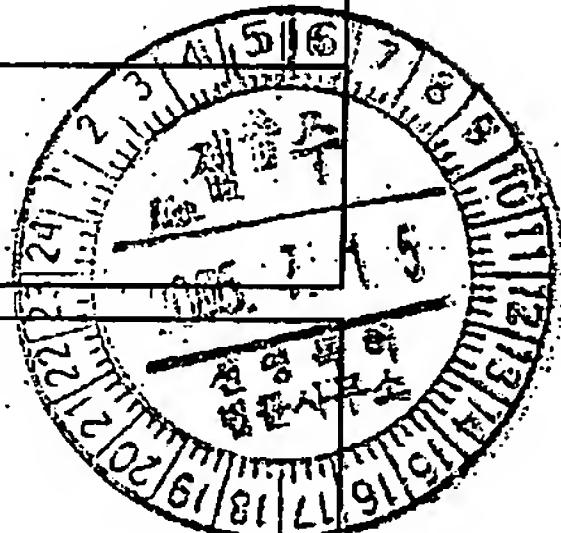
PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 08 JULY 2005 (08.07.2005)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 05FLWW029	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/KR2005/001270	International filing date (day/month/year) 02 MAY 2005 (02.05.2005)	Priority date(day/month/year) 03 MAY 2004 (03.05.2004)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC IPC7 D06F 33/02		
Applicant LG ELECTRONICS, INC. et al		



1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.
For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR Korean Intellectual Property Office 920 Dunsan-dong, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701, Republic of Korea Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140	Date of completion of this opinion 04 JULY 2005 (04.07.2005)	Authorized officer JEON, Yong Hai Telephone No.82-42-481-565
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International application No.
PCT/KR2005/001270

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 on paper
 in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing.
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in electronic form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-20	YES
	Claims	None	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	2-4, 6-20	YES
	Claims	1, 5	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-20	YES
	Claims	None	NO

2. Citations and explanations :

Reference is made to the following document:

D: JP 09-276583 A

Novelty

For Claims 1-4: None of the available prior art describes a drum type washing machine with a microcomputer controlling washing and rinsing operations in accordance with a procedure set by a user based upon the input of a start command through the key input unit and preventing repetition of a preliminary spin drying operation using a measured eccentricity of the drum.

So claim 1 is new and said claimed invention is novel since the prior art does not disclose or suggest the specifically claimed drum type washing machine. Dependent claims 2-4 also appear to be novel. Consequently claims 1-4 comply with Article 33(2) PCT.

For Claims 5-8: None of the available prior art describes a controlling method of a drum type washing machine having a step of re-performing an eccentricity measurement operation, and controlling a preliminary spin drying operation not to be repeated in accordance with the result of the re-performed eccentricity measurement operation.

So claim 5 is new and said claimed invention is novel since the said controlling method of a drum type washing machine is not disclosed by the prior art. Dependent Claims 6-8 also appear to be novel. Consequently claims 5-8 comply with Article 33(2) PCT.

For Claims 9-20: None of the available prior art describes a controlling method of a drum type washing machine having the steps of claim 9. So claim 9 is new and said claimed invention is novel since the said drum type washing machine is not disclosed by the prior art. Dependent claims 10-20 also appear to be novel. Consequently Claims 9-20 comply with Article 33(2) PCT.

See the supplemental box.

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of :

Box No. V. 2. Citation and explanations

Inventive Step

For Claim 1: D does not exactly disclose the same drum type washing machine of claim 1. But D discloses a washing machine comprising: a drum 2; a motor 16; an input unit 31; and a microcomputer 32 controlling washing, rinsing and dehydration.

Although the said microcomputer controlling washing and rinsing operations in accordance with a procedure set by a user based upon the input of a start command through the key input unit and preventing repetition of a preliminary spin drying operation using a measured eccentricity of the drum is not explicitly specified in D, D discloses a microcomputer controlling various washing modes in accordance with an input command through the input unit. So the invention in claim 1 could be derived by a person skilled in the art, if necessary, by a simple design change or repeated experiments. Therefore claim 1 would be obvious for the skilled person and the invention of claim 1 is not considered to involve an inventive step. Consequently claim 1 does not fulfil the requirements of Article 33(3) PCT.

For Claims 5: D does not exactly disclose the same controlling method of a drum type washing machine of claim 5. But D discloses dehydration which is operated according to the detected eccentricity. So the invention in claim 5 could be derived by a person skilled in the art, if necessary, by a simple design change or repeated experiments. Therefore claim 5 would be obvious for the skilled person and the invention of claim 5 is not considered to involve an inventive step. Consequently claim 5 does not fulfil the requirements of Article 33(3) PCT.

Industrial Applicability

The inventions of Claims 1-20 are industrially applicable.